



# CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

January 10, 2008

**TOM LATHAM**  
Congressman  
4th District, Iowa

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue  
Room S-2018  
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Madame Secretary:

I write today to express my sincere concern with the recent announcement that Pella Corporation intends to terminate operations at its Story City, Iowa manufacturing facility in March of this year. The closure will lay off 244 full time employees and 40 "flex" or seasonal workers.

Pella is one of Story City's largest employers. Pella established its Story City operations in 1997, the facility manufactures Pella's premium quality window and door products. Headquartered in Pella, Iowa, the Pella Corporation also has facilities located in Carroll, Shenandoah and Sioux Center, Iowa, in addition to other facilities located throughout the United States.

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This unfortunate announcement of layoffs will have a significant adverse impact on the workforce and economies of Story City, Story County and the surrounding area. Accordingly, I strongly urge you to provide dislocated worker services, such as National Emergency Grants, Trade Adjustment Assistance, and Rapid Response Services, to assist the area's workforce to obtain the necessary training and skills needed to transition to re-employment. The need for this assistance couldn't be clearer given the economic decline North Central Iowa will endure as a result of the layoffs from the Pella manufacturing plant in Story City.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this request and look forward to your response. I offer my full support, as well as that of my staff, in helping the Department meet this appeal for assistance. Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Tom Latham  
Member of Congress